

The Minutes of the Suffield Economic Development Commission  
April 23, 2015- Town Hall – 8:30 a.m.

Members present:

Howard Orr, Roger Tracy, Susan Thorner, Gloria Smith, Caroline D'Otreppe

Absent L. Montefusco, B. Banak

Also present: EDC Director Patrick McMahon

Chairman Orr called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

The minutes of the March 19, 2015 were voted approved by unanimous vote.

Citizen Comment: None

Ffyer Place Redevelopment - Mr. McMahon reported that CVS closed this past Friday.

It took 2 Town Meetings to get all the necessary easements approved. The Fire Department used the Building in the front for training . We are not sure when we will see the demolition begin.

Will the same employees cross the street to work in the new building? Mr. Tracy thinks this will happen in the Fall. It has taken 2 years to complete this project. Mr.McMahon will check to make sure the plans have all the amenities.

The highway garage environmental analysis is ongoing. The borings have been sent to testing labs and the final report will be soon be completed.

The Firestone property, a proposed alternative site for a new highway garage was priced at \$2M, and a counter offer was \$1.5, and as of now, is firm at \$1.5M.as proposed site. The garage is a big building and taxes are still being paid.

There is no further word regarding Mr. Pease's bubble project which would built in conjunction with a hotel. It is still under consideration.

Arcor is still seeking an expansion, perhaps Lots 13-14 in the Industrial Park.

Poulins is also seeking to expand. That odd shaped lot across from Poulins would not fit into their plans? Mr. Tracy asked. No. They want to have a building that is contiguous to their building. They are not looking for a satellite operation.

The expansion of utilities is still under design. This looks more like a 2016 project..

The Library construction is going well. Some of the construction is causing some traffic issues.

Hilltop Farm - The Hilltop roofs and chimneys are done. The windows are in progress on House # 1. The gas line will be in soon and water line may start in May. The creamery facility is at the end of the barn, where ice cream and gelato were made. The Commission discussed a fundraiser, Go Fund Me for the sale of the ice cream at Hilltop. We will have a busy summer, with the gas hookups and sewer line to the big barn and two houses. We are getting bids on the plumbing. The creamery is not funded (\$50,000).

The Bridge Street Community Center “s second presentation was made to the Board of Finance, it informed AD HOC Community that the Board of Selectmen had approved a figure of \$2.79,000; but the Board of Finance informed the AD HOC Committee to go back to the Board of Selectmen so it could approve the \$8.3 figure. Then the AD HOC Committee could come back to the Board of Finance for a vote by the BoF and then to Town Meeting.

In response to a question, what is going on with Babbs Beach? It is a Town Facility and has a fine beach. But there is no planned action at this time. There is a large facility at the beach but with no plans. We have the money to extend to the water. We have the beach, soccer fields.etc, and a big empty building but no future plans nor money. Mr. McMahony has asked our 61<sup>st</sup> State Representative Tami Zawistowski for a share of the State bonding funds.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Bobbie C. Kling, Secretary      EDC.MINUTES.April23.2015